Misuse of premises of Port Blair Fire Headquarters

2542. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on an inquiry by the Superintendent of Police (AP), the fire brigade premises in Port Blair Fire Headquarters were found to be used as a poultry farm by the Chief Fire Officer and that the firemen were looking after his private poultry farm;

(b) whether it is also a fact that gross misuse of Government vehicle provided to the Chief Fire Officer was also established; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Voting rights to displaced persons settled in J&K

2543. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the persons displaced from West Pakistan etc. who settled in Jammu and Kashmir about 35 years ago have no voting rights in the Assembly elections there;

(b) what are the views of the Supreme Court on this issue and the related questions about the status of these persons as the citizens of J&K State;

(c) what steps Government have taken in this regard as yet and with what results; and

(d) what is the status of the children of these displaced persons born in Jammu and Kashmir State and their rights to property and voting for Assembly elections?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Supreme Court has observed that it is up to the Legislature of the State of Jammu and Kashmir to take action to amend relevant State Legislations so as to make persons migrated from West Pakistan in 1947 settled in the State since then, eligible to be included in the electoral roll, to acquire lands etc.

(c) The Government of Jammu & Kashmir have informed that the matter has been entrusted to the State Revenue Minister for study from the constitutional and legal points of view.

(d) The children of these displaced persons are also non-permenent residents of the State.

Murder of Shri B. S. Solanki

2544. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the investigation of the murder of a senior Municipal Councillor, Shri Balwan Singh Solanki;

(b) whether the Delhi Municipal Corporation has unanimously passed a resolution on October 10, 1988 requesting the Government of India to hand over the investigation of the case to the CBI;

(c) whether the Mayor of Delhi Municipal Corporation has also in a letter dated November 17, 1988 requested him to intervene in the matter as per the unanimous desire of the entire House of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi; and

(d) if so, whether the CBI inquiry has been ordered; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Two suspects have come to light during investigations. They are, however, absconding.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir. As the case is being investigated by the Crime Branch of Delhi Police under the supervision of Dy. Commissioner of Police (Crime), it was not found necessary to hand over the case to CBI.

Complaints of irregularities against Superintendent of Police (D), Andaman and Nicobar Group of Islands

2545. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Station House Officers from Nicobar Group and Hut Bay in Anadaman Islands have claimed to have supplied various goods/articles to the last Superintendent of Police (D) and have not received payments therefor;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the concerned police officer on transfer asked for 'No Dues' certificate from the Station House Officers under his jurisdiction through a crash wireless message; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Electoral reforms in Assam

2546. SHRI MAULANA ASAD MADNI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the details of the electoral reforms carried out in Assam up to 15th February, 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ): The electoral reforms are undertaken on all-India basis and not State-wise. The question of electoral reforms in Assam alone does not arise.

It may be clarified that the Constitution (62nd Amendment) Bill, 1988 which was passed by both the Houses of Parliament in December, 1988 and which seeks to reduce the voting age from 21 to18 is awaiting ratification by not less than one-half of the States. As regards the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 1988 which contains several important items of electoral reforms, all sections thereof excepting sections 3, 6, 7 and 8 have been brought into force on and from 15-3-1989; and sections 7 and 8 are being brought into force on and from 1-4-1989.

राज्यपालों की नियुक्ति

2547. **श्री विश्वासराव रामराव पाटिल** : क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या किसी राज्य में राज्यपाल की नियुक्ति करते समय उस राज्य के मुख्यमंत्री से परामर्श करने की परंपरा है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या हाल ही में पांच राज्यों में राज्यपालों की नियुक्तियां करते समय वहां के मुख्यमंत्रियों से परामर्श किया गया था?

गृह मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह) : (क) और (ख) राज्यपाल की नियुक्ति से पहले राज्य के मुख्य मंत्री से केवल परंपरा के तौर पर परामर्श किया जाता है; तथापि ऐसा करना संविधान अथवा किसी कानून के अन्तर्गत आवश्यक नहीं है।